

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

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TO DIRNSA INFO AFSSO 7AF AFSSO PACAF NSA PAC REP VIETNAM (C) (NSA PAC)

REP (C) HQ, NSAPAC USM 7

ZEM

SECRET SAVIN IAPVJ53/A+R 8090 049 SUBJ: LOSS OF USAF F111 REF: A. UR 861-493, 291747Z (NOTAL) B. MY 2X/G11/VCY/T015-68, 292043Z (NOTAL) C. MY TACREP HR 726-68 SONGBIRD PASEP GOLF ELEVEN/ECHO, 291737Z (NOTAL) D. MY TACREP NR 717-68 SONGBIRD PASEP GOLF ELEVEN/ECHO, 290630Z (NOTAL) E. MY 2X/G11/VCM/T2431-68 WITH CHANGES, 291505Z 1. CONFIRMATION OF THE SHOOTDOWN OF AN AMERICAN F-111 AIRCRAFT WAS GIVEN IN A 29 MARCH MESSAGE SENT FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED ELEMENT IN HANOI TO ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED ELEMENT IN HA TINH PROVINCE. THIS MESSAGE CREDITED AN UNSPECIFIED INFANTRY UNIT WITH THE AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWN, BUT GAVE NO LOCATION FOR THE ACTIVITY. 2. PRIOR TO THIS CONFIRMATION, A MESSAGE SENT BETWEEN UNIDENTIFIED ELEMENTS AT 0650 ZULU ON 28 MARCH HAD REVEALED THE POSSIBLE SHOOTDOWN OF AN AMERICAN AIRCRAFT OF UNSPECIFIED YPTE. THE ELEMENTS WHO SENT THIS MESSAGE GAVE TENUOUS INDICATIONS OF BEING AIR DEFENSE ASSOCIATED AND ALSO REVEALED THEIR ASSOCIATIONS WITH THREE UNIDENTIFIED UNITS DESIGNATED "SONG DA," "SONG DAY," AND "SONG LO," THE UNITS INDICATED THAT THEIR OPERATIONS INCLUDED THE TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES AMONG THEMSELVES CONCERNING "THE DISTANCE, SPEED, AND ALTITUDE (OF THE PLANES) AT ANY AREA, "AND REVEALED THAT "A NUMBER OF (MESSAGES)" HAD BEEN SENT ON 27 MARCH. 3. THE MESSAGE ACTIVITY ON 27 MARCH AMONG THESE UNIDENTIFIED UNITS WAS POSSIBLY REFLECTED IN THE OBSERVANCE OF AN UNUSUALLY HIGH VOLUME OF HIGH PRECEDENCE MESSAGES BEING EXCHANGED ON 27 AND 28 MARCH BETWEEN HQ, MILITARY REGION (MR) 4 AIR DEFENSE COMMAND POST (ADCP) AND THREE UNIDENTIFIED SUBORDINATES OF THAT ENTITY. 4. THE FIRST UNIDENTIFIED SUBORDINATE, LOCATED AS LATE AS 15 MARCH IN THE VICINITY OF 17-50N 105-50E, RECEIVED 9 MESSAGES FROM AND SENT 13 MESSAGES TO HQ, MR4 ADCP, IN CONTRAST TO A NORMAL DAILY VOLUME OF 4 MESSAGES TO AND 1 MESSAGES TO AND 1 MESSAGE FROM THAT HQ. 5. HQ, MR4 ADCP SENT TWO MESSAGES TO THE SECOND UNIDENTIFIED SUBORDINATE, LAST LOCATED ON 29 FEBRUARY IN THE VICINITY OF 17-45N 106-10E. THIS IS THE FIRST MESSAGE ACTIVITY NOTED BETWEEN THESE TWO ENTITIES SINCE 20 MARCH. HQ, MR4 ADCP ALSO SENT THREE MESSAGES TO A THIRD UNIDENTIFIED SUBORDINATE, LAST LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF 17-30N 106-30E AS LATE AS 29 FEBRUARY. COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THESE TWO ENTITIES HAVE BEEN VERY INFREQUENT SINCE 20 MARCH. ONLY ONE MESSAGE, SENT ON 24 MARCH, HAS BEEN OBSERVED PASSING BETWEEN THE TWO ENTITIES SINCE 21 MARCH. 6. THUS, THERE ARE VERY TENUOUS INDICATIONS THAT HQ, MR4 ADCP AND ITS THREE SUBORDINATES WERE INVOLVED IN THE SHOOTDOWN OF THE F-111. THIS WOULD LOCATE THIS ACTIVITY IN THE VICINITY OF QUANG DINH PROVINCE IN MR4. 560 NNNN

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(b) (3)-50 USC 403

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McCANN, HENRY ELMER

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